

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1 1. A method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, the method comprising:
3 receiving an indicator from the user node at the system node;
4 determining a payer attribute based on the indicator; and
5 communicating the payer attribute to the user node across a computer
6 network.

1 2. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 1, wherein the
3 indicator identifies a treatment.

1 3. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 2, wherein the
3 payer attribute comprises a diagnosis which support the treatment.

1 4. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 2, wherein the
3 treatment is a medical procedure.

1 5. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 2, wherein the
3 treatment is a medication.

1 6. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 1, wherein the
3 indicator identifies a payer.

1 7. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 6, wherein the
3 payer is an insurance company.

1 8. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 6, wherein the
3 payer attribute comprises a treatment commonly denied by the payer.

1 17. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 1, wherein the
3 system node is a server in communication with the Internet.

1 18. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 1, wherein the
3 system node is associated with a computer readable medium, the computer readable
4 medium comprising:
5 treatment data associated with a treatment identifier;
6 payer data associated with a payer identifier; and
7 the payer attribute associated with a combination of the treatment identifier
8 and the payer identifier.

1 19. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 18, wherein
3 determining the payer attribute comprises:
4 associating the payer identifier with the medication identifier; and
5 retrieving the payer attribute associated with the medication identifier and
6 payer identifier.

1 20. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 18, wherein the
3 computer readable medium further comprises:
4 a first statistical datum associated with the payer identifier; and
5 a second statistical datum associated with the medication identifier.

1 21. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 1, the method
3 further comprising:
4 receiving a request for access from a provider; and
5 providing the identity of the provider to a treatment supplier, wherein the
6 treatment supplier provides the provider with a password.

1 22. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 1, wherein the
3 indicator is a first indicator, the method further comprising:

4 receiving a second indicator from the user node at the system node.

1 23. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 22, the method
3 further comprising:

4 providing a database interface at the user node, the database interface
5 automatically retrieving one of the first or the second indicators from the user node and
6 communicating the first and the second indicators to the system node.

1 24. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 22, wherein the
3 first indicator identifies a treatment and the second indicator identifies a payer.

1 25. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 24, wherein the
3 payer attribute is specific to both the payer and the treatment.

1 26. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 24, the method
3 further comprising:

4 displaying an interface at the user node, wherein the first and second
5 indicators are entered via the interface.

1 27. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 26, wherein the
3 interface is an Internet page.

1 28. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 26, wherein the
3 treatment is a medication and the interface is a first interface, the method further
4 comprising:

providing a second interface at the user node, the second interface operable to receive an order for the medication;

receiving the order for the medication; and

ordering the medication.

29. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 28, the method further comprising:

communicating the order for the medication to a shipper.

30. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 29, the method further comprising:

receiving compensation from the shipper for communicating the order to the shipper.

31. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 26, wherein the interface is a first interface, the method further comprising:

- providing a second interface at the user node for creating an approval request; and
- communicating a created approval request to the payer.

32. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 31, wherein the second interface comprises an interactive letter.

33. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 31, wherein the second interface comprises a form letter.

34. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 31, the method further comprising:

receiving a response from the payer, the response denying the created approval request;

6 communicating the response to the user; and
7 providing a third interface at the user node for creating an appeal
8 corresponding to the response.

1 35. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 31, wherein the
3 second interface is an Internet page comprising a field for entering data.

1 36. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 35, wherein the
3 Internet page comprises a radio button for selecting a diagnosis.

1 37. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 36, wherein the
3 radio button is a first radio button and the diagnosis is a first diagnosis, and wherein:
4 the Internet page further comprises a second radio button for selecting a
5 second diagnosis, the second diagnosis related to the first diagnosis.

1 38. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 26, wherein the
3 interface is a first interface, the method further comprising:
4 providing a second interface at the user node for creating an approval
5 appeal.

1 39. The method for providing a payer attribute corresponding to a
2 medical treatment from a system node to a user node, according to claim 38, the method
3 further comprising:
4 communicating the approval appeal to the payer.

1 40. A method for securing approval for a particular medical treatment,
2 the method comprising:
3 providing a system node in communication with the Internet;
4 receiving at the system node a first indicator and a second indicator, the
5 first indicator identifying a medication and the second indicator identifying a payer;
6 providing to a user node across the Internet a first interface for creating a
7 request for approval corresponding to the first and second indicators.

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- 1 41. The method for securing approval for a particular medical
2 treatment, according to claim 40, wherein the first interface is an interactive letter.
- 1 42. The method for securing approval for a particular medical
2 treatment, according to claim 40, wherein the first interface is a first Internet page.
- 1 43. The method for securing approval for a particular medical
2 treatment, according to claim 40, the method further comprising:
3 receiving a created request for approval from the user node; and
4 communicating the created request for approval to the payer.
- 1 44. The method for securing approval for a particular medical
2 treatment, according to claim 43, the method further comprising:
3 receiving a denial of the created request for approval, the denial
4 comprising an indication of a treatment denied and the payer; and
5 providing to a user an appeal request corresponding to the denial.
- 1 45. The method for securing approval for a particular medical
2 treatment, according to claim 44, wherein the appeal request is an interactive letter.
- 1 46. The method for securing approval for a particular medical
2 treatment, according to claim 44, wherein the appeal request is created via an interactive
3 Internet page.
- 1 47. The method for securing approval for a particular medical
2 treatment, according to claim 44, wherein the appeal request comprises an electronic
3 signature.
- 1 48. The method for securing approval for a particular medical
2 treatment, according to claim 43, wherein the created request for approval comprises an
3 electronic signature.
- 1 49. The method for securing approval for a particular medical
2 treatment, according to claim 43, wherein communicating the created request for approval
3 is done by facsimile.

